

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 040366

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:RRSTRAND:GJB

APPROVED BY AF/C:APALMER

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R 220003Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, US

SUBJECT: "GOOD NEWS" FROM KINSHASA

REFS: KINSHASA 1494 AND 1503

1. WHEN WE CALLED AMB MBEKA TODAY TO RELAY CUTLER'S ITINERARY, HE ASKED EAGERLY WHETHER WE HAD HAD "GOOD NEWS" FROM OUR EMBASSY IN KINSHASA. WITH ONLY A SLIGHT GROPING PAUSE TO THINK BEYOND THE BAD FINANCIAL NEWS, WE ANSWERED YES, THAT PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S MEETING WITH THE MILITARY TEAM AND AMBASSADOR HINTON HAD INDEED BEEN CORDIAL AND THE LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE OF IT FAVORABLE. MBEKA SAID THAT HE TOO HAD HAD A "MOST ENCOURAGING" CABLE ABOUT THE MEETING, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS A HAPPY REAFFIRMATION OF BASIC US-ZAIRIAN AMITY.

2. HAVING WATCHED US CHOKED ON VINEGAR, MOBUTU SEEMS TO BE SPREADING SOME THE HONEY HE TALKED ABOUT AT THE AAI MEETING. KISSINGER
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PAGE 02 STATE 040366

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